

Listing of Claims:

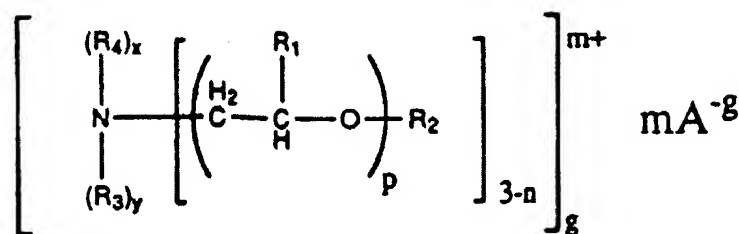
Claim 1 (Currently Amended): An article of manufacture comprising:

- (a) a fabric conditioning composition comprising a mixture of about 20-35 percent to about 80-65 percent of an saturated -acyloxyalkyl quaternary ammonium compound and about 80-65 percent to about 20-35 percent of a mixture of glycerin and glyceryl esters;

wherein,

said saturated acyloxyalkyl quaternary ammonium compound has the following

general formula:

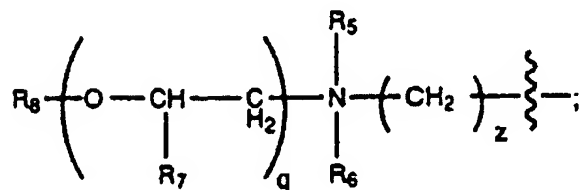


wherein,

each  $R_1$  is independently a hydrogen atom or a branched or linear alkyl or alkenyl group from about 1 - 6 carbon atoms;

each  $R_2$  is independently an alkylcarboxyl group derived from a stearic or a palmitic free fatty acid;

each  $R_3$  is independently a branched or linear alkyl or alkenyl group from about 1 - 4 carbon atoms which is un-substituted or substituted with 1 - 3 hydroxyl groups, or is a group of the formula:



each  $R_4$  is independently a branched or linear alkyl or alkenyl group from about 1 - 4 carbon atoms, which is un-substituted or substituted with 1 - 3

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hydroxyl groups;

each  $R_5$  is a branched or linear alkyl or alkenyl group from about 8 - 23

carbon atoms;

each  $R_6$  is a branched or linear alkyl or alkenyl group from about 1 - 4

carbon atoms which is un-substituted or substituted with 1 - 3 hydroxyl groups;

each  $R_7$  is independently a hydrogen atom or a branched or linear alkyl or alkenyl group from about 1 - 6 carbon atoms;

each  $R_8$  is a hydrogen atom or an alkylcarbonyl group containing from about 11 carbon atoms to about 23 carbon atoms;

$q = 1-100$ ;

$z = 2$  or  $3$ ;

$p = 1-100$ ;

$n = 0, 1, \text{ or } 2$ ;

$x$  and  $y$  are independently  $0, 1, \text{ or } 2$  with  $(x+y)+(3-n)=4$ ;

$m = 1$  or  $2$ ;

$g = 1, 2$  or  $3$ ; and

$A$  is a monovalent anionic residue of an alkylating agent, or a monovalent or polyvalent anionic residue of a Bronsted acid; and

wherein,

said glyceryl esters are selected from the group consisting of monoglycerides,

diglycerides and triglycerides;

(b) a dispensing means which provides for release of an effective amount of the fabric conditioning composition to fabric in an automatic clothes dryer,

wherein the fabric conditioning composition is a solid or semi-solid at room temperature and has a melting point of about  $30^{\circ}\text{C}$  to about  $65^{\circ}\text{C}$ .

Claim 2 (Canceled).

Claim 3 (Original): An article according to claim 21, wherein  $R_2$  is derived from a mixture of hydrogenated tallow and hydrogenated coconut oil.

Claim 4 (Original): An article according to claim 3, wherein the ratio of hydrogenated tallow

to hydrogenated coconut oil is from about 1:9 to about 8.5:1.5.

Claim 5 (Original): An article according to claim 21, wherein R<sub>2</sub> is derived from hydrogenated tallow.

Claims 6 – 11 (Canceled).

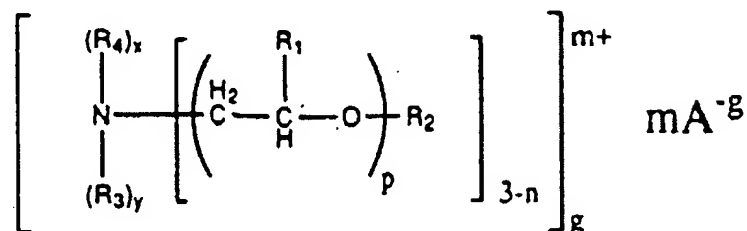
Claim 12 (Currently Amended): An article according to claim 21, wherein the alkylating agent is a member selected from a groups consisting of ~~comprising~~ dimethyl sulfate, diethyl sulfate, dimethyl carbonate, trimethyl phosphate, methyl chloride, methyl bromide, methyl iodide, benzyl chloride and benzyl bromide.

Claim 13 (Original): An article according to claim 1, wherein the dispensing means comprises a flexible substrate in the form of a sheet having the fabric conditioning composition releasably affixed thereto to provide a weight ratio of fabric conditioning composition to flexible substrate of about 10:1 to about 0.1:1.

Claim 14 (Original): An article according to claim 1, wherein the dispensing means comprises a sponge material releasably enclosing the fabric conditioning composition wherein the weight ratio of fabric conditioning composition to sponge material of about 10:1 to about 0.1:1.

Claim 15 (Currently Amended): A method for imparting softening and static reduction effects to fabric in an automatic laundry dryer comprising commingling articles of damp fabric by tumbling the damp fabric under heat in an automatic clothes dryer with an effective amount of a fabric conditioning composition, the fabric conditioning composition being flowable at dryer operating temperature, the fabric conditioning composition comprising a mixture of about ~~20-35~~ percent to about ~~80-65~~ percent of an saturated acyloxyalkyl quaternary ammonium compound and about ~~80-65~~ percent to ~~20-35~~ percent of a mixture of glycerin and glyceryl esters, wherein,

the saturated acyloxyalkyl quaternary ammonium compound has the following general formula:

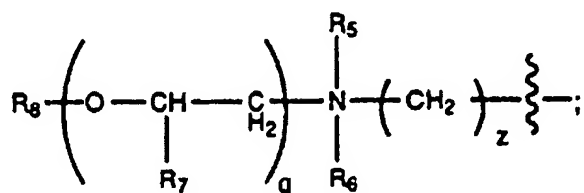


wherein,

each  $R_1$  is independently a hydrogen atom or a branched or linear alkyl or alkenyl group from about 1 - 6 carbon atoms;

each  $R_2$  is independently an alkylcarboxyl group derived from a stearic or a palmitic free fatty acid;

each  $R_3$  is independently a branched or linear alkyl or alkenyl group from about 1 - 4 carbon atoms which is un-substituted or substituted with 1 - 3 hydroxyl groups, or is a group of the formula:



each  $R_4$  is independently a branched or linear alkyl or alkenyl group from about 1 - 4 carbon atoms, which is un-substituted or substituted with 1 - 3 hydroxyl groups;

each  $R_5$  is a branched or linear alkyl or alkenyl group from about 8 - 23 carbon atoms;

each  $R_6$  is a branched or linear alkyl or alkenyl group from about 1 - 4 carbon atoms which is un-substituted or substituted with 1 - 3 hydroxyl groups;

each  $R_7$  is independently a hydrogen atom or a branched or linear alkyl or alkenyl group from about 1 - 6 carbon atoms;

each  $R_8$  is a hydrogen atom or an alkylcarbonyl group containing from about 11 carbon atoms to about 23 carbon atoms;

$q = 1-100$ ;

$z = 2 \text{ or } 3$ ;

$p = 1 - 100$ ;

$n = 0, 1, \text{ or } 2$ ;

$x \text{ and } y \text{ are independently } 0, 1, \text{ or } 2 \text{ with } (x+y)+(3-n)=4$ ;

$m = 1 \text{ or } 2$ ;

$g = 1, 2 \text{ or } 3$ ; and

$A$  is a monovalent anionic residue of an alkylating agent, or a monovalent or polyvalent anionic residue of a Bronsted acid; and

wherein,

said glyceryl esters are selected from the group consisting of monoglycerides, diglycerides and triglycerides.

Claim 16 (Canceled).

Claim 17 (Original): A method according to claim ~~16~~15, wherein  $R_2$  is derived from a mixture of hydrogenated tallow and hydrogenated coconut oil.

Claim 18 (Original): A method according to claim 17, wherein the ratio of hydrogenated tallow to hydrogenated coconut oil is from about 1:9 to about 8.5:1.5.

Claim 19 (Original): A method according to claim 18, wherein  $R_2$  is derived from hydrogenated tallow.

Claim 20 (Canceled).